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cnt 16. (Amended) The method according to claim[s] 13 [or 14] wherein the mature zymogen is added under in vivo conditions.

a2 19. (Amended) A method according to [any one of] claim[s] 1 [to 18] wherein said nucleic acid sequences are deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequences.

a3 26. (Amended) A chimeric nucleic acid sequence according to [any one of] claim[s] 20 [to 25] wherein said nucleic acid sequences are deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequences.

a4 28. (Amended) An expression vector comprising a chimeric nucleic acid sequence according to [any one of] claim[s] 20 [to 27] and a regulatory sequence suitable for expression in a host cell.

a5 35. (Amended) A method according to [any one of] claim[s] 31 [to 34] wherein said pro-peptide is derived from a protease.

a6 38. (Amended) A method according to [any one of] claim[s] 31 [to 37] wherein the polypeptide is a vaccine, a peptide antibiotic, a cattle feed enzyme, a cytokine, a gastric lipase or a lactase.

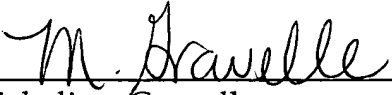
a7 43. (Amended) A composition according to claim 41 [or 42] wherein the nucleic acid sequences are deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequences.

44. (Amended) A composition according to claim 41[, 42 or 43] wherein said chimeric nucleic acid sequence does not include a sequence encoding a mature form of the zymogen.

Entry of the above preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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